

Ian Lane

- ▼ University of Florida ▼ 3.75 GPA
- ▼ Graduate Student in Accounting

For Ian Lane, 21, one of the toughest parts of leading is saying “no.” As student body treasurer, Lane oversees the allocation of \$8 million to hundreds of campus groups and projects. “There’s only a certain amount of money to go around,” he says. “I try and give people options and other ways to make their programs happen.”

Even though Lane’s current SG role is a dollar-and-cents job, he also uses his people skills to talk with students each day. “I try to turn conflict into consensus. Students come into my office all emotional. I just listen and ask them questions. By the time they leave, they’ve almost solved their problems themselves.”

Poring over budgets is only a small part of Lane’s daily schedule. In addition to graduate classes and involvements ranging from SG to the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity to serving on a city commission committee, Lane owns a martial-arts company, Japan Karate-Do. “Teaching karate was one thing, but having other people do it for you and being the person responsible for four different locations is a challenge.” A world-champion karate competitor, Lane exercises his physical and



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communication prowess to run his business successfully. “It all comes back to dealing with people—there’s not enough time in the day to do it by yourself.” Through Team Katsu, a non-profit division of his business, Lane has helped disadvantaged youths gain greater self-esteem in and out of the classroom. “My responsibility as a karate instructor is not only to teach my students how to protect themselves, but also to instill in them the virtues of courage, courtesy, humility, integrity, and self-control.”

Lane is a role model when it comes to

discipline, juggling his many commitments with regular volunteering. Along with other Florida Blue Key members, Lane brings local children to campus once a semester for Orange and Blue Kids Day where they enjoy outdoor activities, snacks, and a Gator sporting event. He has helped build Habitat for Humanity houses in the community and lends a hand at the St. Francis House with carpentry tasks and preparing holiday meals for shelter residents.

As a mentor and a volunteer wrestling coach for an at-risk high school student, Lane relearned the simple value of friendship. “It really touched me and changed my perspective—just seeing how showing up or spending time with someone can affect their life,” he says. “I tried to get through to him the importance of college and being a well-rounded, good person. You have a lot of temptations that bring you astray when you’re in high school.”

One of five children, Lane credits his parents with his firm belief in the responsibility of serving those around him. “My parents always instilled that you should use your talents to help others—I haven’t seen it any other way.” Although Lane believes in motivating by example, he also knows when to encourage others to take the lead. “My first approach when I come across a good idea is to get other people excited. Then I try and steer it in the right direction and get the wheels turning. The best successes I’ve seen is when you have a good idea and get others on board.”

Jennifer Salinas

- ▼ Central Florida C.C. ▼ 3.93 GPA
- ▼ Sophomore in Business Administration

For Jennifer Salinas, managing many responsibilities is invigorating. “I try to choose things that push me—I’m in PTK, and I like having that GPA and service requirement to stay in the club.” Salinas gives credit for her drive to her mother, who raised two daughters largely as a single parent. “She’s gone back to school, and she showed me determination and motivation,” Salinas says.

As president of CFCC’s Student Activity Board, Salinas, 19, has been in charge of a major transition when students and administrators this year decided to dissolve Student Government and empower the SAB to head-up programming and campus outreach. “People weren’t getting involved—they stayed away from SG,” she says. Salinas now supervises three exec-board members and nine chairs who coordinate areas including service, recreation, and diversity. “We try to reach out to the clubs and advisors to let them know we’re there or to help with funding.”

Like many community college leaders, Salinas must address the needs of a variety of constituents. “You have mothers who are working two jobs—you have to appeal to their children and get them involved,” she says. In



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response to student input, Salinas’ team booked a comedian, organized a pudding fling with the baseball team, and hosted an Acoustics Café with a coffee shop for homecoming week.

As one of her school’s delegates to district and regional events of the Florida Junior Community College Student Government Association, Salinas works to bring key concerns to administrators’ attention. “You get people who want to lead—they’re serious about the issues we take to the legislature.” Through her local involvement with PTK and at the

group’s state and international conventions, Salinas brings home ideas to help other CFCC students move forward. “Each of us has an enormous impact on the lives of others, and how we use this power reflects our character.”

Outside the classroom, Salinas stays equally active. With her stepfather, she coordinated the first Toys for Dunnellon Tots in December, collecting four boxes of toys and \$200 cash for needy families. Salinas and other SAB members adopted a family through United Way, raised \$300, and donated \$200 worth of food. “We showed them that there are people out there willing to help.”

Salinas also participates in the school’s Dance Marathon to benefit United Way and the March of Dimes Walk America, and she volunteers as a notetaker for disabled students. In addition, Salinas works the twice-yearly High School Preview Day, welcoming high schoolers to learn more about CFCC.

To support herself through school, Salinas works 15 hours weekly in the Office of Student Leadership Development, gets a stipend as a peer educator, and has two scholarships. Recognized as one of three “Women of Promise” by the Ocala Women’s Network, Salinas channels the support she’s received back to those around her. “I see people every day that don’t believe in themselves and they don’t reach their goals—they’re scared of failure,” she says. “They settle for average when they could be so much more—they just have to realize their potential.”